

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) An apparatus comprising:

one or more Input/Output (I/O) conductors, wherein the I/O conductors pass through a hermetic seal such that a first end of the I/O conductors reside on a non-hermetic side of the hermetic seal and a second end of the I/O conductors reside on a hermetic side of the hermetic seal within a metal case of the apparatus;

a printed circuit interconnect substrate residing on the hermetic side of the hermetic seal;
and

one or more ceramic chip capacitors mounted on the printed circuit interconnect substrate, wherein a first end of each capacitor is electrically connected via the interconnect to the second end of an I/O conductor and a second end of each capacitor is electrically connected via the interconnect to the metal case.

2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the printed circuit interconnect substrate is mounted on the hermetic side of the hermetic seal.

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the printed circuit interconnect substrate includes a printed circuit board material.

4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the printed circuit board material includes a ceramic.

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the printed circuit board material includes FR4.

6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the printed circuit interconnect substrate includes a flexible circuit tape.

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7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the flexible circuit tape includes polyimide tape.

8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the printed circuit interconnect substrate is a multi-layer substrate.

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the printed circuit interconnect substrate includes an electrically conductive medium.

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the electrically conductive medium includes solder.

11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the electrically conductive medium includes conductive epoxy.

12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the electrically conductive medium includes wire-bonds.

13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the capacitors have a dielectric breakdown voltage of about 1200 volts.

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the capacitors have a dielectric breakdown voltage within a range of about 200 to 1500 volts.

15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the capacitors are discrete capacitors.

16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the capacitors include surface mount packaging.

17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the capacitors are included in a multi-chip package.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the capacitors are adapted to filter electromagnetic interference.

19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the hermetic seal is part of an implantable medical device.

20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the hermetic seal includes a ceramic.

21. (Original) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the hermetic seal includes an epoxy.

22. (Original) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the hermetic seal includes a glass.

23. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the I/O conductors are pins.

24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the I/O conductors are wires.

25. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the I/O conductors are conductive traces.

26. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the conductive traces are included in a printed circuit interconnect that accommodates surface mounting of electronic components.

27-37. (Canceled)

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Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (612) 373-6912 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

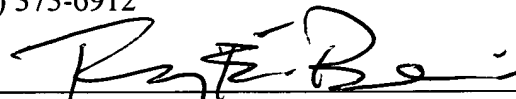
Respectfully submitted,

NICK A. YOUKER ET AL.

By their Representatives,

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Date Nov. 4, 2005

By 
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Reg. No. 39,610

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, MS: Amendment, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 4 day of November, 2005.

Name

Paula Suchy

Signature

